



Front Country Trails Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force

P.O. Box 1990, Santa Barbara, CA 93102-1990
Fax Number 805.564.5480

Phone Number 805.564-5431
www.santabarbaraCA.gov

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, December 1, 2010
5:30 PM
Santa Barbara County Administration Building
Planning Commission Hearing Room – 123 E. Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Perkins called the regular meeting of the Front Country Trails Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force to order at 5:30 PM at the Santa Barbara County Administration Building, Planning Commission Hearing Room, 123 E. Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Perkins.

ROLL CALL:

Task Force Members Present:

Suzanne Perkins, County Park Commissioner, 1st District
Judith Dale, County Park Commissioner, 3rd District
Beebe Longstreet, City Park & Recreation Commissioner
W. Scott Burns, City Park & Recreation Commissioner
Bruce Emmens, Public Use & Facilities Staff Officer, Los Padres National Forest

Task Force Member Absent:

Jeff Bensen, Los Padres National Forest

Staff Present:

Jill Zachary, City of Santa Barbara Assistant Parks and Recreation Director
Kathy Frye, City of Santa Barbara Associate Park Planner
Erik Axelson, County Parks Deputy Director
Claude Garciacelay, ASLA, County Park Planner
Mark Guy, County Ranger II
Kerry Kellogg, Wilderness and Trails Manager, Santa Barbara Ranger District
Rebecca Mordini, Front Country Trails Coordinator

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of Minutes – For Action

Recommendation: That the FCT Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force approve the meeting of September 1, 2010.

Motion:

Task Force members Dale/Longstreet to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 1, 2010.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (Bensen Absent).

TRAIL STAR RECOGNITION PROGRAM:

2. Recognition of Santa Barbara Youth Corps – For Action

Recommendation: That the Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force recognize the Santa Barbara Youth Corps for Youth Leadership and Dedication to the Front Country Trails.

Speakers:

- Staff: Rebecca Mordini, Front Country Trails Coordinator; Mark Guy, Ranger II; Erik Axelson, County Parks Deputy Director.
- Members of the Public: Joyce Ruiz.

Mr. Axelson said this is an opportunity to recognize people in the community that have contributed to the maintenance and promotion of the front country trails.

Mark Guy, Ranger for Santa Barbara County Parks began working with the members of the Santa Barbara Youth Corps this past June. Together they conducted routine trail maintenance. Recognition went to Joyce Ruiz, Angel, Lorenzo, Darren, and Kyle.

Ms. Zachary commented that there are a number of different groups that volunteer on the trails and have been engaged in this process for a number of years. One of the action items and recommendations of the Task Force was to develop a program to regularly recognize people that are actively helping to maintain the trails. The agencies do not have the resources to do it all. Staff wanted to recognize these two groups because they are new users and the agencies are trying to broaden the base of support.

Task Force Comments:

Task Force Member Perkins thanked the Youth Corps and thanked Ranger Mark Guy for helping to work with the group and getting the program started.

3. Recognition of Visiting Nurse & Hospice Care – For Action

Recommendation: That the Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force recognize Visiting Nurse & Hospice Care for Business Leadership and Dedication to the Front Country Trails.

Speakers:

- Staff: Rebecca Mordini, Front Country Trails Coordinator; Jill Zachary: Assistant Parks and Recreation Director
- Members of the Public: Linda Tanner, President and CEO of the Visiting Nurse and Hospice Care.

Ms. Mordini acknowledged Visiting Nurse and Hospice Care for their leadership in the business and work community and for their dedication to the Front Country Trails. Dave Everett, one of the dedicated trail volunteers, works with this group recruited his co-workers and they completed work on two trail projects.

Ms. Tanner thanked the Task Force and said the volunteers enjoyed the experience. As others in their organization heard about what they were doing, more people wanted to get involved. She looks at this as an ongoing partnership and it was a great team building experience.

Task Force Comments:

Task Force Member Perkins welcomed and thanked Ms. Tanner for getting involved with the trails. She explained that Mr. Everett has been such an advocate for the trails and these are the partnerships the Task Force really wants to encourage.

OLD BUSINESS

4. FCT Management Plan and 2011 Funding – For Discussion (Attachment 2)

Recommendation: That the FCT Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force review and discuss the next steps for developing the FCT Management Plan.

Speakers:

- Staff: Jill Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director; Rebecca Mordini, Front Country Trails Coordinator
- Members of the Public: Bobby King, Montecito Trails Foundation; Chris Orr, Santa Barbara Mountain Bike Volunteers; Doug Dodge, District Ranger for Santa Barbara District Forest Service; and Ray Smith.

Ms. Zachary discussed what the work session did and suggested next steps for moving forward. Ms. Zachary also presented the 2011 budget with potential funding commitments.

Task Force Comments:

- Task Force Member Burns mentioned the \$9,000 fundraising and asked if there were any thoughts on funding sources.
 - Ms. Zachary said staff has had preliminary discussion with other groups and planned to seek assistance for specific projects. Ms. Mordini has also spoken to different Community Groups about partnering on a fundraiser.
- Task Force Member Burns asked if the Task Force needs to re-approve the baseline trail assessment.
 - Ms. Zachary said that at the last meeting, it was the Task's Force desire that staff move forward with hiring Beneficial Designs, and complete the assessment with the high efficiency trail assessment process (HETAP). Staff has developed a scope of work for Beneficial Designs.
- Task Force Member Longstreet commented that she would like to see staff move towards finishing the physical assessment of the trails to really look at what is out there. The answer to multi-use trails lies in education and etiquette and our user groups are doing a good job so far. She really believes in the last few years the Task Force hasn't heard many incident complaints. Our focus needs to be making our trails as user friendly as possible. She thinks these are good next steps and is glad to see that HETAP is going forward.
- Task Force Member Emmens asked when the HETAP survey assessment will be completed.
 - Ms. Zachary said staff does not have it currently scheduled because they have not finalized the contract. The challenge has been finalizing the commitment of the funding from the three agencies to be able to move forward. Task Force Member Emmens indicated that he likes the idea of having the baseline data available, and it will be an objective measure for the Task Force.
- Task Force Member Dale mentioned when staff gets the data, that not only the Task Force receives it, but the public receives it as well so everyone has the same information.
- Task Force Member Perkins said she very much appreciates the chart on the trail user conflict response. She thinks it helps to formulate ideas. It does take time to move forward and she thinks the Task Force has taken huge strides. She believes all the options are on the table and the Task Force and staff should review the facts as they come forward.
- Task Force Member Dale would like to see each group do their own workshop. With the trail data they receive, they would come up with their proposal from their point of view realizing that there are other users.

- Task Force Member Longstreet expressed concern because none of these groups are that cohesive. There are all different users in each group. She thinks we almost have to figure out a more neutral group to work with all of the groups. And to attract people to a meeting who normally do not participate. She would like to see outreach done through education.
- Task Force Member Burns asked if there was going to be a workshop in March.
 - Ms. Zachary said there is a regular meeting in March, but not a workshop scheduled for that time. Task Force Member Longstreet would like the workshop occur when staff gets all the data.
- Task Force Member Perkins said the Task Force needs to receive the data, analyze it and then have a workshop.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

5. Trail Maintenance Projects for 2011 – For Information

Recommendation: That FCT Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force receives a status report on FCT trail maintenance projects for 2011.

Speakers:

- Staff: Kerry Kellogg, Wilderness and Trails Manager, Santa Barbara Ranger District.
- Members of the Public: None.

Mr. Kellogg gave a report on staff is planning for the 2011 Trail Maintenance Projects. The three main events for 2011 are as follows: State Trails Day will be on April 30, 2011; National Trails Day will be on June 11, 2011; and National Public Lands Day/Day of Caring will be on September 17, 2011.

Task Force Comments:

- Task Force Member Burns asked about the cameras that were placed on the trails and when the Task Force would have a report.
 - Ms. Zachary said at the March meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:23 PM, with no further business to come before the Task Force, the meeting was adjourned to the next scheduled meeting, to be held on March 2, 2011, at the Santa Barbara City Council Chambers, 735 Anacapa Street, 2nd Floor, Santa Barbara.

Motion:

Task Force members Burns/Longstreet to adjourn the meeting.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (Bensen absent).

Respectfully submitted,



Jill Zachary
Assistant Parks and Recreation Director
City of Santa Barbara

Erik Axelson
County Parks Deputy Director